

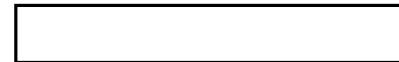
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17 November 1961

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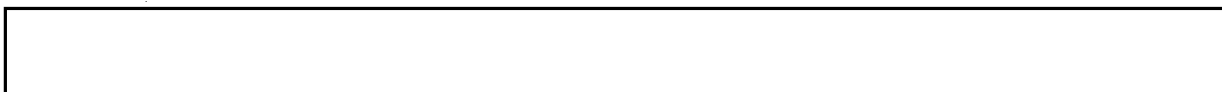


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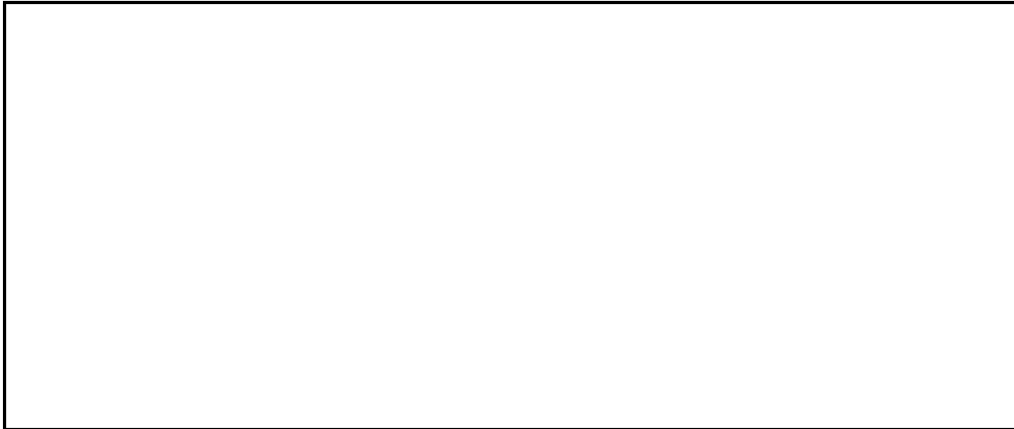
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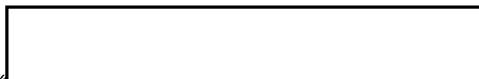


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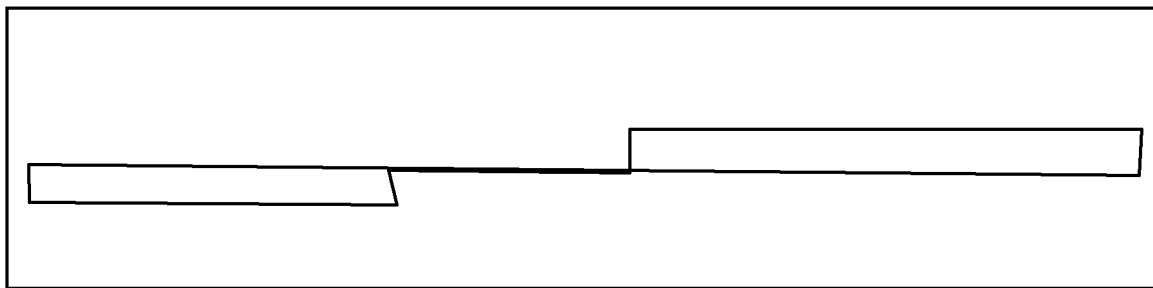
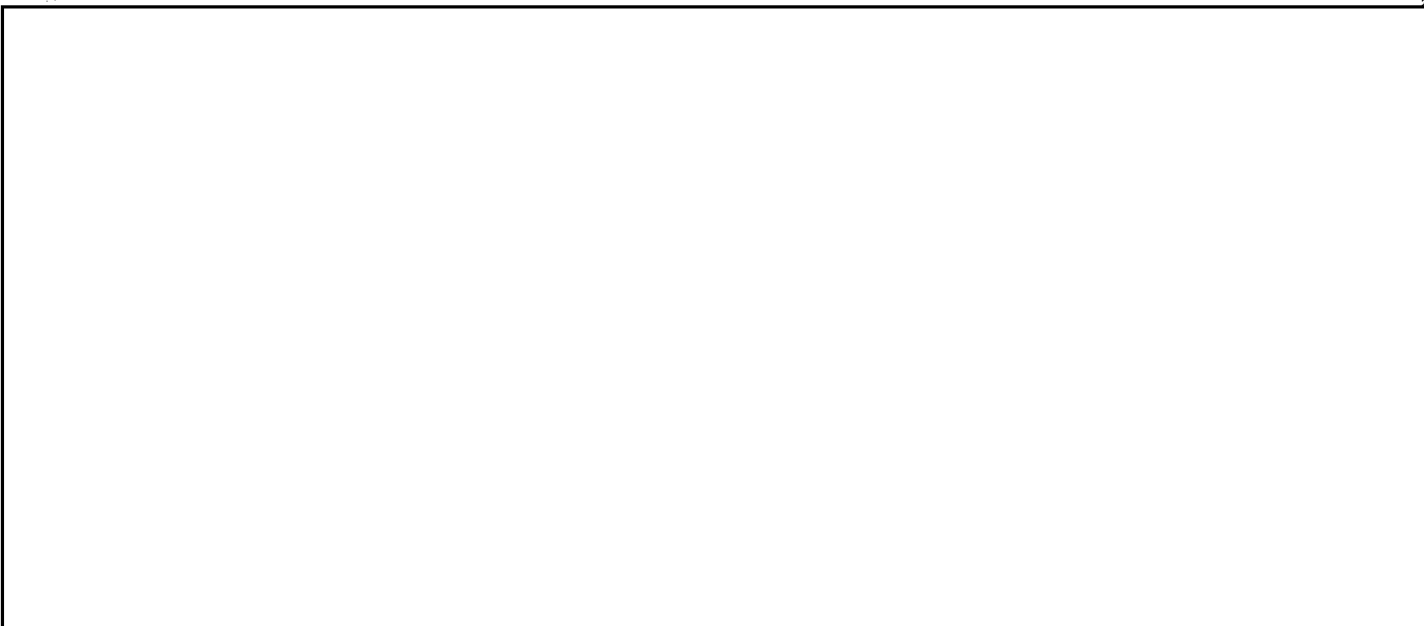
DAILY BRIEF

***USSR-Finland:** Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Kuznetsov's contention to the Finnish ambassador on 16 November that the West German threat had become more serious since the Soviet note of 30 October seems designed to set the stage for more insistent Soviet demands that Finland accept the validity of the Soviet charges against Bonn. The Soviets may have been encouraged to believe that Kekkonen's dissolution of parliament indicates that additional concessions can be obtained, particularly a forthright government statement in line with Gromyko's request for prompt assurances of continued Finnish neutrality. The renewal of the charges of Norwegian and Danish cooperation with West Germany may also be timed to create an atmosphere of anxiety which can be exploited to place pressure on Oslo and Copenhagen during Norwegian Foreign Minister Lange's visit to Moscow on 19 November. In support of his claim that a more alarming situation had developed with reference to the military threat from West Germany, Kuznetsov cited the visit by Bonn's Defense Minister Strauss to Norway, the imminence of NATO maneuvers in the Baltic area, and press reports of an early agreement between Denmark and West Germany on a joint naval command in the Baltic. The Finnish ambassador has been

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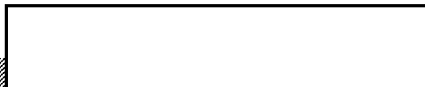
Singapore: Discontent in Singapore is mounting over Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's proposals to merge Singapore and Malaya into a "Greater Malaysia Federation" and over his government's restrictive labor policies. The regime has used

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DAILY BRIEF

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LATE ITEM

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*Dominican Republic (information as of 0230 EDT): With top military leadership still in question late yesterday as General Ramfis Trujillo persists in his resolve to resign and leave the country, a spreading transport strike threatens public order in the capital and in the interior. The flow of produce into the city has been interrupted. There were indications late on 16 November that the still potent political machine of the late dictator may be preparing to commit its strong arm squads against the strikers. A leader of the moderate opposition reports that the authorities have been drawing up lists of opposition leaders, presumably in preparation for mass arrests.

Ramfis Trujillo told the American Consul General that his decision to resign was taken for purely personal reasons. He proposed that General Hector Trujillo, his uncle, remain in the country as a "symbol of the continuity of the Trujillo name" necessary to prevent the armed forces from fighting among themselves. Hector, who served in the presidency for eight years as the puppet of the late dictator, is anathema to the majority of Dominicans.

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DAILY BRIEF

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Discontent in Singapore Could Lead to Riots

Prime Minister Lee's chief difficulty with labor stems from the control exercised by the opposition Singapore Socialist Front (SSF) over most of Singapore's unions. The day laborers' strike began with a request for government recognition on 31 October. This was refused, because the government feared that the new union would draw members away from the pro-government Amalgamated Union of Public Employees and weaken the government's popular base. Planned strikes by other unions, including a one-day demonstration by the military base workers on 20 November, appear to be designed in part to support the day laborers' strike and in part to protest against Lee's proposals for merger with Malaya.

Opposition to merger with Malaya turns mainly on the degree of sovereignty to be surrendered to the Federation Government. Under the present plan, Singapore will surrender control over external affairs, defense, and internal security to the Federation Government but retain autonomy over education and labor policies. While control over education should reassure most Chinese elements in Singapore, the leftist elements, spearheaded by the SSF, attack the surrender of internal security as relegating Singaporeans to second-class citizenship.

It appears that Lee will seek approval of the merger scheme through the Legislative Assembly, where he is expected to win a comfortable majority. If he decides not to hold a referendum on the issue, he will place the SSF in an untenable position. Its only chance to block the merger is to bring down the government, which it could do only by resorting to violence. If it does, Lee is prepared to have the leaders interned. If it does not, it faces suppression by the Federation Government after merger.

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The Director, The Joint Staff

The Director for Intelligence, The Joint Staff

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